



Summary notes
POPs SIWG Chair's coordination meeting
Geneva, Switzerland, 21-23 May 2014

Attendance

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| 1: Mr. Alberto Santos Capra (Argentina) | 13: Mr. Arturo Gavilan Garcia (Mexico) |
| 2: Ms. Jacinthe Séguin (Chair- Canada) | 14: Mr. Cornelis Luttkhuizen (Netherlands) |
| 3: Ms. Julie Croteau (Canada) | 15: Mr. Jayakody Sumith (Sri Lanka) |
| 4: Mr. Qifei Huang (China) | 16: Mr. Larsolov Olsson (Sweden) |
| 5: Ms. Xuemei Zhu (China) | 17: Ms. Svitlana Sukhorebra (Ukraine) |
| 6: Mr. Kevin Helps ((FAO) | 18: Abiola Olanipekun (Basel Secretariat) |
| 7: Mr. Timo Seppälä (Finland) | 19: Ibrahim Shafii (Basel Secretariat) |
| 8: Ms. Mareike Walther (Germany) | 20: Dadan Wardhana Hasanuddin (Basel Secretariat) |
| 9: Ms. Elisabetta Bemporad (Italy) | 21: Stephanie Cadet (Basel Secretariat) |
| 10: Ms. Naoko Moritani (Japan) | 22: Philomena Joseph (Basel Secretariat) |
| 11: Mr. Yo Osada (Japan) | 23: Melissa Lim (Basel Secretariat) |
| 12: Mr. Kiyohiko Suzuki (Japan) | |

- 1. Opening of the meeting:** The Chair opened the meeting on Wednesday May 21, 2014 at 10 am.
- 2. Organizational matters:** Participants agreed to the proposed agenda and organization of the work as proposed in the schedule of work.
- 3. Matters related to harmonization of POPs technical guidelines:** Participants had before them a supporting document and a comparison table outlining the issues related to harmonization between the general and specific technical guidelines. Participants discussed and reached an agreement on matters of scope, long and short titles of the guidelines and some specific technical content. Detailed notes, recommendations and short/long titles are presented in Annex A of this summary.
- 4. Consideration of comments received and advancement of revised drafts of the POPs technical guidelines:** To support the discussions to address comments received from the March 2014 public consultation, each technical guidelines had two supporting documents, 1) a table compiling all the comments received with an extra column to note how comments were addressed and; 2) a consolidation of all comments in track changes in each of the technical guidelines.
 - (a) Unintentionally produced POPs technical guidelines:** Considering the few comments received on these technical guidelines and due to the absence of Ms. Heidelore Fiedler, participants agreed to not open the technical guidelines for discussion. Rather, the Chair requested the Secretariat to present to Ms. Heidelore

Fiedler (UNEP Chemicals Branch) the matters of harmonization that were discussed in agenda item 3 and agreements reached by the participants.

(b) Pesticides technical guidelines: Mr. Kevin Helps from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations briefly presented the status of the development of these technical guidelines.

Mr. Kevin Helps proposed a substantial rewrite of the guidelines in order to address comments and improve the focus on waste management aspects. Some participants commented that keeping the existing format was important to ensure consistency between all the POPs technical guidelines. Others mentioned that information in the guidelines needed to reflect the current situation, trends and, where possible, the global context, especially for the sections pertaining to description, production, and use of the pesticide POPs. The Chair mentioned that while keeping the current format, all information relevant to waste management practices could be included to the extent that FAO considers relevant and useful. Comments provided to FAO from the March 2014 public consultation were not discussed.

Next step: FAO agreed to streamline the current text and add more pertinent information, related context and waste management guidance. A revised draft will be presented to the SIWG by the end of June 2014.

(c) PFOS technical guidelines: Ms. Julie Croteau from Canada presented the comments received on the technical guidelines. Few comments were received from the March 2014 public consultation.

- In the section on wastes, it was agreed that a consideration should be added to have proper references to stockpiles;
- The relevance of entry A1120 for PFOS waste will be verified;
- Waste streams approach: To present clear guidance on the ESM of article and product wastes containing PFOS, consensus was reached that section IV.F (*handling, collection, packaging, etc.*) of the technical guidelines should present overarching guidance as well as specific information by waste streams of importance.
- Overall, there was consensus that improvements are needed in several areas to better explain the rationale for the guidance and also the presentation of linkages to the general technical guidelines.

Next step: Canada will update the technical guidelines and present a revised draft to the SIWG by the end of June 2014.

(d) PCBs technical guidelines: Ms. Naoko Moritani from Japan presented the comments received on the technical guidelines. Comments received from the March 2014 public consultation were discussed in addition to participants' interventions. Key issues included:

- The flame retardant PBB should remain in the PCB technical guidelines;
- For Section IV: Guidance on environmentally sound management (ESM), additional guidance in Section C: *Waste prevention and minimization* should be added. For example, the issue of cross-contamination between equipment and details on possible prevention options should be further highlighted, where available (e.g. free PCBs labelling requirements during import);
- For Section D: *Identification and inventories*, an introductory paragraph referencing the requirements for identification under the Stockholm Convention (i.e. paragraph 1 of Article 6) should be added;
- For Section D.2: *Inventories*, additional information could be added to acknowledge that inventories are an important tool for identifying, quantifying and characterizing PCBs wastes/equipment. Many countries have completed inventories, which can assist countries in identifying whether wastes could be disposed of locally or would require to be exported to ensure their environmentally sound management. Considerations could be given to differentiating articles/equipment containing PCBs that are still in use and "PCB wastes". Types of PCBs wastes could be clustered in three main categories: liquids, solids and surfaces; and

- Participants looked at the need to present the information according to waste streams for section IV.F (*handling, collection, packaging* etc.). There was consensus that for these technical guidelines, there is no need to present information by waste stream.

Next step: Japan will update the technical guidelines and present a revised draft to the SIWG by the end of June 2014.

(e) Brominated flame retardants technical guidelines: Participants discussed the scope of the brominated flame retardants technical guidelines and the comments received. Consensus was reached that:

- Separate technical guideline should be developed for HBCD. HBCD and BDEs have different waste streams, distinct stakeholders and users. With stand-alone technical guidelines for HBCD, the waste management guidance and recommendations will be more specific to better serve users of the technical guidelines. China will remain the lead country for the development of both BDEs and HBCD technical guidelines. The Secretariat will work with China to retain a consultant to assist in the preparation of the HBCD technical guidelines. Accordingly, all information from the current draft of the BDEs technical guidelines will be removed;
- It is premature at this time to have decaBDE in the scope of the BDEs technical guidelines as decaBDE is not listed in the Stockholm Convention and represents a sensitive issue for many Parties. However, a paragraph presenting the issue of decaBDE debromination to lower brominated BDEs already listed under the Stockholm Convention will be added;
- As wastes containing decaBDE may be subject to the Basel Convention obligations, guidance on their environmentally sound management is needed. Participants discussed a possible way forward on this issue and suggested that as a first step, information needed to be gathered on the management of waste products and articles containing decaBDE. The Chair proposed that this work should be part of the OEWG9 decision and invited a lead country to volunteer;
- The applicability of entry A3180 to BDEs waste is uncertain at this time. Consensus was reached to recommend that OEWG undertake work to determine the interpretation of the entry A3180 in Annex VIII of the Basel Convention with regard to brominated flame retardants, in particular to BDEs; and
- Waste streams approach: To present clear guidance on the ESM of wastes containing POP BDEs found in articles and products, consensus was reached that the technical guidelines should present information in section IV.F (*handling, collection, packaging* etc.) by waste streams of importance.

Next steps: China will update the technical guidelines and present a revised draft to the SIWG by the end of June 2014.

For the HBCD technical guidelines, the Secretariat and China will initiate the process to hire a consultant to support work for its development as soon as possible. Timelines for the submission of a first draft of the HBCD technical guidelines will be determined by China/the consultant and the Secretariat when the hiring process is complete. It is not expected that a first draft of the HBCD technical guidelines will be presented at OEWG9. Nevertheless, in its report to the OEWG9, the Chair of the SIWG will provide an update on the status of the development of these technical guidelines.

(f) General technical guidelines: Ms. Julie Croteau from Canada presented an overview of the comments received on the general technical guidelines. Many aspects of the discussion on harmonization require that the general technical guidelines be adjusted. Key highlights of the discussions and consensus reached are as follows:

- The technical guidelines need to present the challenges posed by the recently added POPs in that many are found in common products and household articles. Their end-of-life management involves careful consideration of a range of factors triggering complex decisions to ensure they are managed in an environmentally sound manner.
- A flow chart presenting the relationship between the Basel Convention and the Stockholm Convention is to be inserted at the end of the Stockholm Convention section of the guidelines to better present when each Convention applies to POPs wastes. This will help make the distinction between the meaning of the low POP content definition of Stockholm and the application of the hazardous waste definition of Basel.

- An introduction paragraph will be added before section IV.F (*handling, collection, packaging, etc.*) to introduce the concept of the waste stream approach in the specific technical guidelines for presenting guidance by waste streams of importance. In addition, in the sub-section for handling, collection, packaging etc., general information will be added for waste articles containing POP.
- In the section G: Environmentally sound disposal, new pre-treatment methods will be added: Blending, volume reduction, disassembling/dismantling (*to be verified*) and thermal recovery. Discussion took place on possibly adding stabilization/solidification (*to be verified*) as a pre-treatment method. It was noted that a chemical treatment before solidification is important. Canada will look further into this technology and provide more details on this method to the SIWG.
- Table 2 presenting the various technologies will be adjusted to ensure POPs are presented in a separate column, where applicable.. For example, a new column will be added for PBB and instead of having a general column for brominate flame retardants, it will be divided into BDEs and HBCD.
- A lot of was discussed on the proposed new technology: *Municipal solid waste incineration*. Concerns were expressed that this technology may not be environmentally sound and that specific requirements and controls would need to be in place to ensure the ESM of POP wastes. Canada will look into this and provide further details on this method.

Next step: Canada will update the technical guidelines and present a revised draft to the SIWG by the end of June 2014.

- 5. Low POP content:** The Chair of the SIWG presented this agenda item. Participants had before them a draft of the *Supporting document for the development of Section III of the General technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants*. Discussion took place on the purpose and the need for this document. Consensus was reached that such a document was useful and should be presented at OEWG9 by the SIWG Chair. A discussion followed on the set of considerations presented to determine the low POP content definition. Consensus was reached that; 1) all considerations should remain but for some the language needed to be adjusted; 2) the economic and feasible implementation considerations should be presented separately; and 3) incorporation and referencing of some relevant work undertaken by the Stockholm Convention.

Next step: The Chair will prepare a revised draft of the supporting document and present a revised draft to the SIWG by the end of June 2014.

6. Other matters and next steps:

(a) Other matters:

Decision for OEWG9: Considering the outcome of the discussions of this meeting, several elements would need to be added to the decision on the technical guidelines on POPs. Consensus was reached that the following could be added to the decision:

- *Notes with appreciation the progress report by Canada on the development of the technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants.*
- *Notes with appreciation the progress of work under the leadership of China, in consultation with the small intersessional working group, in the development of the technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with commercial octabromodiphenyl ether (hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether), commercial pentabromodiphenyl ether (tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether) and also the new separate technical guidelines on hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD).*
- *Invites parties to consider serving as lead country for the gathering of further information on decabromodiphenyl ether (decaBDE) and to inform the Secretariat of their willingness to do so by 31 October 2014.*

- *Requests the lead country mentioned in paragraph 3 above, to submit the information on decabromo-diphenyl ether (decaBDE) to the Open-ended Working Group and the Conference of the Parties for consideration in the development of technical guidelines on POP BDEs wastes.*
- *Agrees on the need to include work on the interpretation of the entry A3180 in Annex VIII of the Basel Convention with regard to brominated flame retardants, in particular BDEs, in the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2015-2016. (invite comments by parties)*
- *Acknowledge the approach to develop the low POP content definitions for the various persistent organic pollutants as reflected in document UNEP/CHW/OEWG.9/INF..... and invite the lead countries and the small intersessional working group to use this approach when developing technical guidelines on persistent organic pollutants.*

The work plan of the SIWG: The work plan (Annex B) was discussed and revised. Dates for the submission of revised drafts to be circulated to the SIWG were agreed upon by the leads to reflect a timeline for preparing new drafts by lead countries. A conference call will be held on July 10, 2014, to discuss the comments received by the SIWG members and leads are to finalize the guidelines by July 18, 2014.

(b) Next steps:

- 1) The Chair will send to the SIWG the key highlights of the meeting with the revised work plan of the SIWG;
- 2) A webinar will be held on June 11, 2014 to present the work of the SIWG since COP11;
- 3) The Chair will prepare a summary of the discussion and will send it to the SIWG; and
- 4) Revised drafts are to be circulated to SIWG and a teleconference call will be held on July 10 to discuss comments.

7. Closure of the meeting: The Chair closed the meeting on Friday May 23, 2014 at 4 pm.

Annex A

Agenda item #3: Participants' agreements on matters related to the harmonization and scope of the general technical guidelines and specific technical guidelines

Content issues

1. Remove from the first paragraph of all guidelines the list of relevant decisions and include these in a footnote instead.
2. Y-codes under "Basel Convention – General provisions" of the general technical guidelines should be removed and included in the specific guidelines where relevant.
3. Under "POPs-related provisions" for specific and general guidelines, the end of the paragraph on guidance documents developed for Annex III hazardous characteristic should read: "Guidance papers for Annex III hazardous characteristics H11, H12 and H13 were adopted on an interim basis by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted at its sixth and seventh meeting."
4. A-codes under "POPs-related provisions" should be removed from the general technical guidelines and included in the specific technical guidelines.
5. B-codes should also be included in the specific technical guidelines after the A-codes. "List B of Annex IX includes a number of wastes or wastes categories which have the potential to contain or be contaminated with PFOS and its related substances, including: ..."
6. The general technical guidelines should have a description of general obligations of the Basel Convention and Stockholm Convention with relevant articles and obligations pertaining to POPs wastes. The specific technical guidelines should have a reference to Article 1 of the Basel Convention for the definition of hazardous waste and have a description of how the chemical is listed under Stockholm, the registry, if necessary, and specific exemptions applicable to the chemical and relevant obligations.
7. Guidance on environmentally sound management: In the general and specific technical guidelines, "General considerations" should not include different sections for Basel, Stockholm, and OECD. Instead, 1) in the general technical guidelines, the sections have been combined into one "General considerations" section and the 2013 ESM framework should be referenced; 2) in the specific technical guidelines, information to define ESM should be removed, the general technical guidelines should be referenced.
8. Under "Waste prevention and minimization", the paragraph on mixing of wastes should read: "Mixing of wastes with a (the POP) content above a defined low POP content with another material solely for the purpose of generating a mixture with a POP content below the defined low POP content is not environmentally sound. Nevertheless, **mixing or blending** of materials before waste treatment may be necessary in order to optimize treatment efficiencies."
9. For the sections "Sampling, analysis and monitoring" and "Handling, collection, packaging, labelling, transportation and storage", a general reference should be made at the beginning to the general technical guidelines: e.g. "For general information on sampling, analysis and monitoring, see section of IV.E of the general technical guidelines." And "For general information on handling, collection, packaging, labelling, transportation and storage, see section IV.F of the general technical guidelines." In addition, the references at the end of each sub-section (e.g. sampling), the reference to the general technical guidelines should be removed, since a general reference at the beginning should be sufficient.
10. Environmentally sound disposal methods (pre-treatment and destruction and irreversible transformation) should be listed in the general technical guidelines and do not appear in the specific technical guidelines.
11. Annex III "Selected analytical methods for POPs" was removed from the general technical guidelines and should be included in the specific technical guidelines as appropriate since they are POPs-specific. These can be listed in the "Analysis" section of the specific technical guidelines.
12. The Bibliography, in-text citations and footnote references for all guidelines should use consistent formatting – see previously published guidelines. Perhaps the Secretariat could help by indicating the formatting style that should be used.
13. The specific technical guidelines should describe specific ESM management activities (collection, inventories, management, etc.) pertinent for each chemical or waste stream

Scope issues

Full title: General technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants
Short title: The general technical guidelines
Considerations: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The short form of the title does not take any capitals2. The full title takes a capital at the first word "General"3. The full title does not include "The", therefore, in a sentence, only "General" is capitalized, not "the": e.g. For further information, refer to the General technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants (POPs).
Full title: Technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride
Short title: The PFOS technical guidelines
Considerations: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. PFOSF does not take a hyphen (PFOS-F)2. Participants agreed to have the full title reflecting chemicals as listed under Stockholm Convention and not to have in the title to reflect that all PFOS-related substances are addressed in the guidelines
Full title: Technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with brominated flame retardants POPs: hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether, tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether
Short title: The POPs BDEs technical guidelines
Considerations: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Participants agreed to create a separate technical guidelines for (HBCD)2. Participants agreed to have the full title reflecting chemicals as listed under Stockholm Convention and therefore to remove the words "commercial octabromodiphenyl" and "commercial pentabromodiphenyl ether"3. Participants agreed that the chemicals Hexabromobiphenyl (HBB) and Polybromobiphenyl (PBB) currently in the scope of the PCBs technical guidelines should remain in the PCB technical guidelines.
Full title: Technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with hexabromocyclododecane
Short title: The HBCD technical guidelines
Full title: Technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls, polychlorinated terphenyls or polybrominated biphenyls including hexabromobiphenyl
Short title: The PCBs technical guidelines
Considerations: Participants agreed that there should be no abbreviations in the title of the guidelines. Abbreviations should only be used in the case that the chemical is listed twice in the title (e.g. in the pesticides technical guidelines).
Full title: Technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with the pesticides aldrin, alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, beta hexachlorocyclohexane, chlordane, chlordecone, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor, hexachlorobenzene (HCB), lindane, mirex, pentachlorobenzene, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, technical endosulfan and its related isomers, toxaphene or with HCB as an industrial chemical
Short title: The technical guidelines on POPs pesticides
Full title: Technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes containing or contaminated with unintentionally produced polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins, polychlorinated dibenzofurans, hexachlorobenzene, polychlorinated biphenyls or pentachlorobenzene

Short title: Decision required: The technical guidelines for unintentionally produced POPs
Full title: Technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes containing or contaminated with unintentionally produced polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (PCDD), polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDF), hexachlorobenzene (HCB), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) or pentachlorobenzene (PeCB)
Considerations: Participants agreed to refer to the guidelines by or unintentionally produced POPs as presented in the Stockholm Convention

Annex B
Work plan of the Small Intersessional Working Group (SIWG) on
Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) for updating and developing POPs technical guidelines

Goal: To complete the following work items for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its ninth meeting from September 2014 in accordance with Decision BC-11/3.

- 1) Canada to prepare draft revised general technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants;
- 2) Canada to prepare draft revised technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride;
- 3) China to prepare draft technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with commercial octabromodiphenyl ether (hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether), commercial pentabromodiphenyl ether (tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether) and hexabromocyclododecane;
- 4) Japan to prepare draft technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polychlorinated terphenyls (PCTs) or polybrominated biphenyls (PBBs) including hexabromobiphenyl (HBB);
- 5) FAO to prepare draft technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with pesticides aldrin, alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, beta hexachlorocyclohexane, chlordane, chlordecone, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor, hexachlorobenzene (HCB), lindane, mirex, pentachlorobenzene (PeCB), technical endosulfan and its related isomers or toxaphene or with HCB as an industrial chemical;
- 6) UNEP Chemicals to prepare draft technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with unintentionally produced dibenzo-p-dioxins (PCDDs), polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDFs), HCB, pentachlorobenzene (PeCB) or polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

POPs technical guidelines tasks and deadlines

	Send drafts to SIWG for review	Deadline for SIWG comments	Send revised drafts to SIWG*	Guidelines posted on website	Deadline for Basel Parties' comments	Chair and leads coordination meeting 21-23 May in Switzerland	Send revised drafts to SIWG for review	Deadline for SIWG comments	Leads to finalize drafts for OEWG9
GUIDELINES	2013		2014					2014	
1 PFOS	Sept. 20	Oct. 23	Feb. 4	Feb. 28	Apr. 15		June 27	July 4	July 18
2 BDE	Oct. 4								
3 Unintentional	Nov. 8								
4 Pesticides	Dec. 31	Jan. 17							
5 PCB	Nov. 8	Nov. 22			April 15				
6 General	Dec. 20	Jan. 24 (2014)	Feb. 21	April 30					

* If a review is needed

Basel POPs SIWG 2013-2014 conference calls schedule

	Conference call dates	Purpose of call
1	June 19, 2013 (1 hour)	Leads to agree on work plan timelines
2	Nov. 20, 2013 (2 hours)	To review SIWG comments on BDE and PFOS guidelines
3	Nov. 27, 2013 (2 hours)	To review SIWG comments on PCB guidelines
4	Jan. 29, 2014 (1 hours)	To review SIWG comments on Pesticides POPs and Unintentional POPs guidelines
5	Feb. 12, 2014 (2 hours)	To review SIWG comments on general technical guidelines
6	July 10, 2014 (2 hours)	To review SIWG comments on all the guidelines